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Letter dated 1 February 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey herewith a note, dated 24 January 2018, from the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), entitled "Completion by Libya of the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpiles" (see annex).

The note was prepared in accordance with the relevant provisions of OPCW Executive Council decision EC-M-52/DEC.1, of 20 July 2016, and Security Council resolution 2298 (2016), of 22 July 2016, for transmission to the Security Council.

I welcome the confirmation by the Director General that Libya has completed the destruction of its entire declared stockpile of chemical weapons, with the consent and support of the international community.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Guterres**

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Annex

[Original: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish]

I have the honour to transmit to you the note by the Director General entitled "Completion by Libya of the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpiles" (see enclosure).

(*Signed*) Ahmet **Üzümcü**

Enclosure

[Original: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish]

Note by the Director General

Completion by Libya of the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpiles

1. In December 2017, the Director General reported to the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council") that Libya had completed the destruction of its Category 2 chemical weapons stockpiles on 23 November 2017 (EC-87/DG.6, dated 22 December 2017) at the Gesellschaft zur Entsorgung von chemischen Kampfstoffen und Rüstungsaltlasten mbH (GEKA mbH) facility in Munster, Germany. Libya's stockpile consisted of 26.345 metric tonnes (MT) of Category 1 chemical agent, 1,181.015 MT of Category 2 chemical agent, and 3,770 items of Category 3 unfilled weapons.

2. Destruction of Libya's stockpile began in 2004 at the destruction facility in Ruwagha, Libya, with the demolition of 3,563 unfilled air bombs. Destruction of all declared Category 3 items was completed in 2004. In 2005, the Technical Secretariat verified the destruction of 551 MT of Category 2 sodium sulfide and sodium fluoride. Neutralisation of Category 1 distilled mustard (HD) began in 2010 and continued until the end of 2013. In November 2011, Libya informed the Council of recently discovered undeclared Category 1 and 3 chemical weapons; those items were destroyed in a static detonation chamber in Ruwagha in 2014. Using dilution, 114 MT of isopropanol alcohol was destroyed in 2016. Due to a changing security situation, a total of 19 MT of pinacolyl alcohol was moved to a location near Tripoli, where it was destroyed in an afterburner chamber.

3. In August 2016, with the consent and support of the international community, approximately 500 MT of Category 2 agent, including 138.770 MT of phosphorous trichloride, 100.83 MT of thionyl chloride, 238.66 MT of tributylamine, and 18 MT of 2-chloroethanol, were transported outside the territory of Libya for destruction at the GEKA facility. Destruction was completed on 23 November 2017.

4. As a consequence, the Director General is pleased to report that Libya has completed the destruction of its entire declared stockpile of chemical weapons.